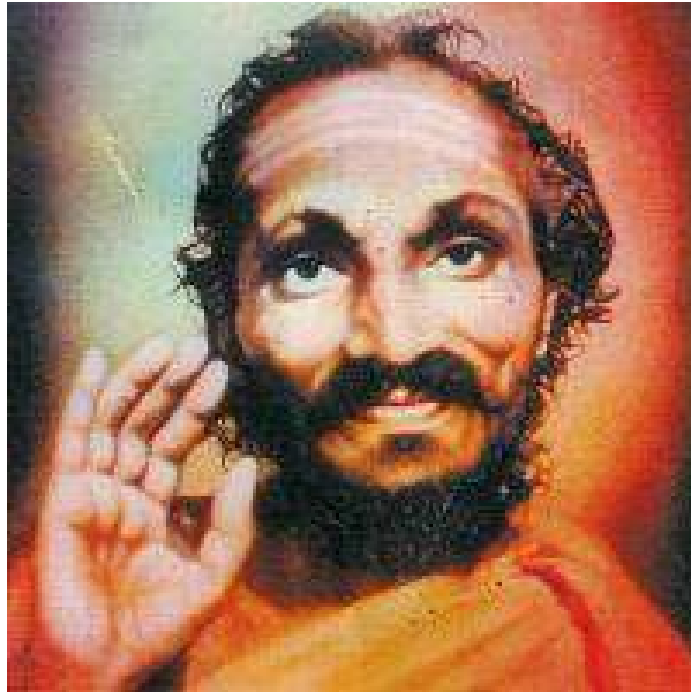


Bhagavan Sri Sridhara Swamiji, Varadahalli, Sagara, Karnataka, and His Teachings

Ref: Wikipedia

Sri Shreedhara Swami Maharaj



Sri Shreedhara Swami Maharaj (7 December 1908 – 19 April 1973) was an Indian prominent [Kannada-Marathi](#) saint and religious poet in the [Hindu](#) tradition. Shreedhar Swami was a devotee of Lord [Ram](#) and a disciple of [Samarth Ramdas](#). Recognised as the incarnation of Adi Guru Sri [Dattatreya](#)

Early life

Sri Shreedhara Swami Maharaj was born in a [Brahmin](#) family to Narayan Rao and Kamalabai Deglurkar on 7 December 1908 in [Lad Chincholi](#), Karnataka. He was born on Datta jayanti in the evening when the chariot carrying Guru Datta was passing by the house. He was born as a boon given by Adi guru [Dattatreya](#) to his parents, as they prayed to adi guru [Dattatreya](#) to be born as their child. He was a devotee of Lord [Ram](#) and a disciple of [Samarth Ramdas](#). When Shreedhara Swami was 3 years old he lost his father and thereafter his mother and elder brother Trimbak took care of the family. Young Shreedhara

was admitted to a school in [Hyderabad](#) for his primary education. Since the very early days he was spiritually inclined. One recorded incident from his early childhood is as follows: He had once fallen very ill and had lost a lot of days at school because of it. Thus he feared that he might fail in the examinations. His mother then told him to constantly chant the name of Lord Ram and that he would see him through the exams. He solemnly started doing that so much so that he finally did not do any studies at all and all the time chanted the name of Ram. On the day of examination he went without reading anything and to the surprise of everybody he answered every question so nicely that he did secure first rank. Shreedhar Swami's elder brother died when he (Shreedhar) was just ten. His mother, unable to cope with the shock and prolonged illness, soon followed him. After her death Shreedhar Swami went to [Gulbarga](#) to live with his aunt and continued his education there. After spending a few years in Gulbarga, he headed for Pune where he lived in an [orphanage](#) for sometime. Here his urge for spiritual enlightenment grew and on the suggestion of one Mr. Palnitkar, he embarked on a journey to [Sajjangad](#) with the intent of seeking spiritual knowledge at the place where Shri Samarth Ramdas had resided nearly three hundred years ago.

Sajjangad and Spiritual Awakening

During the course of time, he got well-acquainted with one of his teachers at school, Shri palnitkar Guruji. Discovering Sridhar's intense inclination towards spiritualism, he advised him to solicit the blessings of Samarth Ramdas Swamiji. [Sajjangad](#) was the abode of Swami [Samarth Ramdas](#) for the last six years of his life. Legend has it that a stone structure (his Samadhi) surged out of its own at the cremation place of Shri Samarth on the very next day of his nirvana. His yearning for a spiritual awakening at this point can be gauged by the fact that he started to dispose all his money to the poor and the remaining he just threw. He liked a particular sweet dish, so he bought it, kept it in front of Lord Ram's idol and then mixed cow dung in it and ate it. Now he could not even think about the dish he once liked so much. On the day of departure to Sajjangad, Which also coincided with Vijayadashmi, he suddenly felt that he was going there to find out the creator of the universe who had control over the living, nonliving things and also time and space. After one and a half years of having arrived at Sajjangad, [Samarth Ramdas](#) himself blessed Shreedhar Swami. Later, he directed him to go south to Karnataka and spread the real message of [Sanatan Vedic Dharma](#).

Touring India for religious Revival

For the next thirteen years, Shreedhar Swami toured most of south India on foot. He used to halt at temples and Mathas where he would deliver discourses on Sanatan Vedic Dharma for religious upheaval. During his travels he made acquaintances with many other well known [Hindu](#) religious leaders and saints. The most significant of these was with Sivananda Swami of [Shigehalli](#). He also visited the [Vivekananda Rock Memorial](#) and performed meditation there. In 1942, Shreedhar Swami took [Sannyasa](#) at Shigehalli and was accorded the title, 'Shreemat Paramhans Parivrajakacharya Bhagwan Shreedhar Swami'. After this till 1967, he extensively toured all over India and through his speeches, writings and spiritual initiatives, spread the core messages of the Vedas among common people. He, returned south to [Varadapura](#) in 1967 where he set up an ashram. He practised, held Hindu exorcism in various holy places, temples including Kolgibis (Kumta road), to drive ghosts, spirits out of any hosts body they have taken over, using his mantradanada staff.

Final Days

On the first day of the second half of the first month of the Hindu calendar, Swamiji's health deteriorated. The disciples again pleaded for bringing a doctor, but Swamiji again refused and told them that [Samarth Ramdas](#) had told that the bodily pains should be considered as pleasures. He enquired what day was the next one and when told about that he knew that it was a day for very auspicious things, but didn't tell it to anyone. Then as usual he took bath thrice, had a little milk and rested for a while in the night and spent the rest of the time in sahaj Samadhi avastha. Swamiji got up the next morning at 5 am. After the morning chores he sat in meditation for a while. He came out of the meditation room at 8 am. The disciples requested him to have some milk, to which he agreed and again sat in meditation. Swamiji in sitting position and in meditation twice said 'Om, Om' and then from the upper side of his body through the head he made his soul leave his body to be eternally unified with the Parbrahma. Despite this his posture didn't change nor did his facial expressions. In fact the aura around his face became brighter for a while. This was at 9 am. on 19 April 1973. After a while Swamiji had attained the Ultimate [Samadhi](#). On hearing this all hell broke loose over the ashram. The news spread like a wild fire as it was announced over the [All India Radio](#) and Swamiji's disciples started coming to Varadpur. His body was placed on a specially made bed of flowers.

Writings—Spreading The Message

Shreedhar Swami was a gifted composer and fluent in [Marathi](#), [Sanskrit](#), [Kannada](#), [Hindi](#) and English. All through his extensive travelling, he managed to spare some time for religious writing. His aim was to simplify the complex nuances of vedic teaching into a form that would be easily digestible to the common man.

Unclutter the day and create windows of silence for the mind. Windows which catch the light of peace and clarity. Windows which let oxygen into the mind.^[1]

He wrote prolifically and wrote over twenty books in Marathi, Kannada and English.

Landmarks

Here's a brief overview of the key milestones in his life:^[2]

- 7 December 1908: Birth at Lad Chincholi, Gulbarga, Karnataka
- 1912-1923: Education at [Hyderabad](#)
- 1923-1927: Spent time at Pune and [Sajjangad](#)
- 1927: Received blessings from Samarth Ramadas
- 1942: Became a [Sanyasi](#) at Shigehalli and began touring South India and later North India, giving spiritual discourses and sparking a religious upheaval
- 1958-1973: Undertook sadhana and settled at [Varadapura](#), [Sagar](#), Karnataka, established [ashram](#)
- 19 April 1973: Passed away at Varadapur, Sagar, fulfilling his own wish

Bhagavan Sri Sridhara Swamiji, Varadahalli, Sagara

Info is given under following headings:

Greatness of the Swamiji.....location..his parents..his birth..childhood..young age...spiritual inclinations...His guru...sadhana...travels .. teachings...his temple or Ashram...his main disciples...miracles performed if any ..his written works... or discourses. or teachings...final days...death...samadhi or memorial ashram..present state of ashram and daily routines..any other info..

Greatness of the Swamiji

Bhagavan Sri Sridhara Swamiji (7 December 1908 – 19 April 1973) was one of the most prominent and illustrious Hindu saints, religious poets, and spiritual leaders of the 20th century. Widely revered across Karnataka and Maharashtra as an incarnation of **Adi Guru Sri Dattatreya**, he dedicated his entire life to the revival of **Sanatan Vedic Hindu Dharma**. He worked tirelessly to strip away social evils like intense casteism, narrow sectarianism, and rigid orthodox ritualism, making the core universal truths of Vedanta accessible to all.

Birth, Parents, and Childhood

- **Birth:** He was born on **7 December 1908** on the auspicious day of *Datta Jayanti* in the evening, exactly as the festive chariot of Guru Datta was passing outside his home.
- **Parents:** He was born into a pious Brahmin family to **Narayan Rao Deglurkar (Patki)** and **Kamalabai Deglurkar**. His parents originally hailed from Deglur in Maharashtra but had moved to rural Karnataka.
- **Childhood Hardships:** Young Sridhar's early life was marked by extreme tragedy and poverty. His father passed away when he was just three years old. When he was ten, his elder brother and main breadwinner, Trimbak, died suddenly, and his grieving mother passed away shortly thereafter. By the age of twelve, Sridhar was an orphan, relying on *madhukari* (traditional begging for alms) and the kindness of extended family to survive.

Young Age and Spiritual Inclinations

Even as a young boy, Sridhar demonstrated profound spiritual depth. At the age of five, he was routinely found deeply absorbed in **Ramnam Jap** (chanting the name of Lord Rama) in front of a portrait.

A famous story from his school days notes that he fell intensely ill and missed months of classes. Fearing he would fail his examinations, his mother told him to simply chant Lord Rama's name. Sridhar took this literally, spending all his time in prayer instead of opening his textbooks. On the examination day, he answered every paper flawlessly and secured the top rank.

His innate benevolence was also evident in his youth; while studying in Gulbarga and Pune, he took up odd jobs at a grocery store to secretly pay the school fees of his less-privileged classmates and earned a reputation for staying up all night to nurse sick hostel mates back to health.

His Guru and Sadhana

Discovering his intense yearning for ultimate truth, a schoolteacher named Shri Palnitkar Guruji advised Sridhar to seek out the blessings of **Samarth Ramdas Swamiji** (the great 17th-century saint and guru of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj). Sridhar traveled to **Sajjangad** in Maharashtra, the final resting place of Samarth Ramdas.

Sridhar's intense *sadhana* (spiritual practice) at Sajjangad lasted for over three years. He practiced rigorous asceticism and served the shrine selflessly—waking up before dawn to sweep the floors, wash utensils, clean the Samadhi, and cook single-handedly for the massive gatherings of devotees, all while maintaining silent, continuous chanting. Pleased by his unyielding devotion, Samarth Ramdas blessed Sridhar in a spiritual vision and directed him to head south to Karnataka to spread the true tenets of Dharma.

In 1942, during a deep spiritual retreat at Shigehalli, Karnataka, under the guidance of Swami Shivananda, he formally took *Sannyasa* (monastic renunciation) and was bestowed the title **Shreemat Paramahansa Parivrajakacharya Bhagwan Shreedhar Swami**.

Travels and Written Works

Swamiji traveled the absolute length and breadth of India on foot to inspire the masses. In 1948, he spent eight months in absolute silence and extreme *Tapas* (austerities) in the isolated heights of Uttarkashi and Rishikesh, where contemporary saints like Ma Anandamayi recognized his extraordinary divine effulgence.

Written Works and Discourses

Swamiji was an accomplished religious poet and philosopher in both Kannada and Marathi. His discourses focused heavily on practical spirituality.

- **Dasbodh Recitations:** He was renowned for his profound expositions on Samarth Ramdas's *Dasbodh*.
- **Sridhara Sandesha:** His core spiritual messages and aphorisms were compiled to reach households across India.
- **Core Poetry & Hymns:** He composed numerous traditional stotras, including the famous *Shri Satguru Stavan*.

Teachings

Swamiji's teachings centered on a harmonious integration of the **Vedic Trinity**: *Karma* (selfless action), *Bhakti* (unwavering devotion), and *Jnana* (experiential knowledge).

- **The Evil of Want:** He spoke extensively on how greed and material desire block spiritual light ("Want is the creator of vice... Wantless mind gains everything").
- **Universal Brotherhood:** He actively dissolved caste barriers, asserting that Dharma is defined by righteousness, inner values, and one's duties toward society, rather than birth or blind ritualism.

His Temple and Ashram (Sri Kshetra Varadapura)

In **1954**, Swamiji chose a serene, secluded hill surrounded by the dense, evergreen Sahyadri rainforests in **Varadahalli (Varadapur)**, near Sagara Taluk in the Shivamogga district of Karnataka. He chose this specific spot because it was historically associated with ancient sages from his ancestral lineage and was once blessed by Sage Vyasa.

Here, he established his hermitage, now widely known as **Sri Sridharashrama**, and hoisted the **Dharma Dhwaja**—a monumental flag intended to stand as a permanent beacon for the revitalization of Sanatan Dharma.

Miracles Performed

While Swamiji discouraged the pursuit of miracles as a distraction from pure spirituality, several extraordinary occurrences are permanently etched into the ashram's history:

- **The Sridhara Teertha:** The hilltop of Varadapur suffered from an absolute, severe scarcity of drinking water. Seeing the distress of his followers, Swamiji gently pressed the earth with the thumb of his right foot. Immediately, a natural spring burst forth. This holy stream, known as *Sridhara Teertha*, has run continuously 24 hours a day with immense force for over seven decades, serving as the primary water source for the entire area.
- **Healing Waters:** Thousands of pilgrims firmly believe that bathing in or drinking the *Sridhara Teertha* possesses therapeutic properties that cure chronic skin ailments and internal diseases.

Final Days, Death, and Samadhi

After decades of non-stop travel and intense physical austerities, Swamiji chose to spend his final years in solitary confinement and meditation at the Varadahalli Ashram. On **19 April 1973**, Bhagavan Sridhara Swamiji took *Maha Samadhi*, leaving his physical body behind. A beautifully structured, tranquil marble Samadhi shrine was erected by his closest disciples at the exact spot of his passing on the hill.

Present State of Ashram and Daily Routines

Today, Sri Kshetra Varadapura is a vibrant, pristine spiritual powerhouse that attracts hundreds of thousands of seekers annually from across India and abroad. It has intentionally preserved its ancient, uncommercialized Gurukula atmosphere.

- **Daily Routines:** The day begins before dawn with traditional Vedic chanting, followed by morning prayers, elaborate *puja* at Swamiji's Samadhi, and the continuous chanting of Rama Nama.
- **Shri Sridhara Sangha Veda Vidyalaya:** The ashram runs a traditional *Gurukula* school where young students reside to learn the ancient Vedas, Upanishads, and Sanskrit.
- **Goshala:** A beautifully maintained dairy sanctuary housing more than 250 cows is operated on the premises, supporting local animal welfare and traditional rituals.
- **Pilgrim Amenities:** To reach the ashram temple complex, devotees climb roughly 300 stone steps through a scenic, quiet forest. The ashram offers basic accommodation and serves free daily *prasadam* (sanctified meals) to all visitors.

To see the peaceful layout of the hill shrine, the continuous flowing holy spring, and the daily rituals performed at the Samadhi, you can watch this video detailing the [vibe and history of Sridhar Ashrama in Varadahalli](#). This video offers a beautiful visual tour of the Sahyadri hill landscape, the Goshala, and the sacred Sridhara Teertha stream discussed above.

Ref: GrokAI

Bhagavan Sri Sridhara Swamiji

****Bhagavan Sri Sridhara Swamiji** (also known as Shreedhar Swami Maharaj or Sridhar Deglurkar)** was a prominent 20th-century Kannada-Marathi saint, religious poet, and spiritual leader in the Hindu tradition. He is widely regarded as an incarnation of Dattatreya and a devotee of Lord Rama in the lineage of Samarth Ramdas. He dedicated his life to reviving Sanatan Vedic Hindu Dharma, combating issues like casteism and ritualism, and spreading Vedantic principles through bhakti, karma, upasana, and dhyana.

Greatness of the Swamiji

Sri Sridhara Swamiji is revered as a foremost spiritual leader of modern India who uplifted hundreds of thousands through his teachings on Sanatan Dharma. He toured extensively, simplified Vedic concepts for the common person, performed intense tapas and sadhana, and established a sacred ashram that continues to inspire devotees. Many spiritual figures recognized his divine radiance. His life exemplified renunciation, selfless service, and unwavering devotion, with a focus on ethical living, peace, and spiritual elevation. He is remembered for his simplicity, compassion, and ability to transform lives.

Location

Varadahalli (also called Varadapur or Varadpura) in Sagara Taluka, Shivamogga (Shimoga) district, Karnataka. It is a hilltop shrine about 10 km (or roughly 5 miles) from Sagara town, nestled in the Sahyadri mountain range amid forests. The ashram is reached by climbing 200–300+ steps.

His Parents

Born to Narayan Rao Deglurkar and Kamalabai Deglurkar, a Brahmin family. His father died when he was about three years old. His mother and elder brother Trimbak raised him initially; both passed away when he was around 10–12, leaving him an orphan.

His Birth

Born on December 7, 1908 (Datta Jayanti day), in Lad Chincholi (Ladchincholi), Karnataka. It is said his parents received a boon from Dattatreya, and he was born as an avatar indicated in dreams and ancient prophecies (linked to Shripad Shri Vallabha). A crescent moon mark and other signs were noted. He showed early spiritual inclinations.

Childhood

Calm, caring, and spiritually inclined from a young age. He developed a deep fondness for Ram bhakti and Ramnam Jap by age five. He comforted his grieving mother at age 10 with profound philosophical insights on the soul's immortality. After becoming an orphan, he pursued education in places like Gulbarga and Pune while helping others and deepening his spiritual urges. Incidents include excelling in exams through Ramnam chanting despite illness.

Young Age

As a student, he lived ascetically—early rising, cold baths, japa, tapas, madhukari (bhiksha), and selfless help to others. He worked odd jobs, shared resources, and showed intense discipline. He vowed renunciation and service before heading to Sajjangad. He was known for his tejas (radiance) and saintly conduct.

Spiritual Inclinations

Deeply drawn to Ram bhakti and Dattatreya worship from childhood. He showed detachment, compassion, and a strong urge for enlightenment, rejecting worldly attachments early.

His Guru

Primarily Samarth Ramdas Swami (through direct visionary blessing at Sajjangad). He also received guidance from Swami Shivananda at Shigehalli for yoga.

Sadhana

Intense and rigorous. At Sajjangad (around 1927 onward for ~3+ years), he performed selfless seva (sweeping, cooking, fetching water, washing), extreme austerity (minimal food, cold baths, langoti in harsh winters), continuous Ramnam Jap, and meditation. He endured physical hardships and received direct darshan and blessings from Samarth Ramdas. Later involved yoga, long tours, mauna (silence), and solitary tapas. He took sannyasa in 1942.

Travels

Extensive tours across India (especially South and North) on foot for about 13+ years post-Sajjangad, delivering discourses on Sanatan Dharma. He visited holy places, met saints (e.g., Swami Shivananda), performed Chaturmasya, and preached widely. He returned south and settled later.

Teachings

Emphasized revival of Sanatan Vedic Hindu Dharma (Vedanta core), bhakti (especially Rama), karma-upasana-dhyana trinity for salvation, ethical living, and overcoming divisions like casteism. He simplified complex Vedic ideas for common people, promoted peace, fearlessness (Abhayadaan), and service. Teachings stress uncluttering the mind for peace, devotion, and realizing the indestructible soul. He erected a Dharma Dhawaja as a symbol of this mission.

His Temple or Ashram

Sri Kshetra Varadapura (Shridhar Ashram) at Varadahalli, established around 1954. Features include the Samadhi Mandir, cave for solitude, Dharma Dhawaja/Stambha, renovated Durgamba Temple (linked to Vyasa Rishi), Shridhar Teertha (perennial spring he manifested), Goshala, and facilities for Vedic learning. It is a serene hilltop site with positive vibrations.

His Main Disciples

Specific names are not heavily detailed in sources, but he attracted many spiritual seekers and devotees from Karnataka and Maharashtra. The ashram continues to serve devotees, students of Vedas/Upanishads/Sanskrit, and sanyasis.

Miracles Performed (If Any)

Accounts include visionary darshan from Samarth Ramdas, manifesting a perennial water source (Shridhar Teertha) by digging with his toe, spiritual healing/exorcism using a mantra staff, and profound influence recognized by other saints. His life itself is seen as miraculous due to austerities and direct blessings.

His Written Works, Discourses, or Teachings

A gifted poet and writer fluent in Marathi, Kannada, Sanskrit, Hindi, and English. Authored over 20 books simplifying Vedanta (e.g., *Swatm Nirupam*, *Moksha Sandesh*). Works include *Sanatan Dharma*, *Shri Ram Path*, and others on bhakti and dharma. Discourses

during tours and writings aimed at accessibility. Audio/visuals and articles are available via the ashram.

Final Days

In later years (especially 1968–1973), he lived in solitude and intense sadhana at Varadapur. Health declined but he refused medical aid, viewing bodily pain as pleasure per his guru. He maintained routines of bathing, meditation, and minimal sustenance.

Death

Attained mahasamadhi on April 19, 1973 (Chaitra Vadya Dwitiya), at age 64, in sitting meditative posture at Varadapur while saying "Om, Om." His soul departed through the head, with a bright aura. News spread widely.

Samadhi or Memorial Ashram

Samadhi Mandir at Varadahalli ashram, with his cave. It is the spiritual heart of the shrine, radiating peace. Plaques with teachings line the steps.

Present State of Ashram and Daily Routines

The ashram remains active and attracts lakhs of pilgrims. It hosts Vedic chanting, puja, bhajans, Sanskrit/Veda/Upanishad classes, annadana (simple satvic meals with encouraged silence), seva (gardening, cleaning, cow care), and meditation. Daily life emphasizes mauna, simplicity, dhyana, and bhakti. Devotees participate voluntarily. The site features forests, a sacred spring, and serene ambiance.

****Other Info**:** The ashram promotes spiritual tourism with natural beauty (rivers, forests). Swamiji's legacy includes ongoing publications and online resources via the official site (sridharashrama.org). He is a key figure in the Dattatreya and Ramdas traditions.

For deeper details, visit the official ashram website or related biographies. Information is drawn from reliable sources like the ashram site and Wikipedia summaries.

Ref: ClaudeAI

Bhagavan Sri Sridhara Swamiji of Varadahalli,

Here's an overview of Bhagavan Sri Sridhara Swamiji of Varadahalli, organized under your requested headings.

Location

The ashram, Sri Kshetra Varadapura (also called Varadahalli), is a small village near Sagara City in Karnataka, notable for the hill shrine of Shri Sridhara Swami Ashram, located 6 km from the centre of Sagara, 72 km from Shimoga, and 352 km from Bangalore. (Wikipedia)

Parents, Birth & Childhood

Sri Shreedhara Swami Maharaj was born to Narayan Rao and Kamalabai Deglurkar on 7 December 1908 in Lad Chincholi, Karnataka, on Datta Jayanti, in the evening as the chariot carrying Guru Datta was passing the house — regarded as a boon granted by Dattatreya to his parents, who had prayed for such a child. (Wikipedia) He was the youngest of five siblings; the eldest, Govind, had died before his birth. (Sridharashrama) He lost his father at age three, and his mother a year later, (Shimogasiri) after which he spent his childhood years in Gulbarga and Pune pursuing his education. (Shimogasiri)

Spiritual Inclination & Guru

He was spiritually inclined from a very young age. (Wikipedia) A schoolteacher, Shri Palnitkar Guruji, noticed his intense inclination toward spirituality and advised him to seek the blessings of Samarth Ramdas Swamiji at Sajjangad (Shimogasiri) — the historic seat associated with the 17th-century saint Samarth Ramdas. Before leaving, his renunciate spirit showed itself dramatically: he began giving away all his money to the poor, and once mixed cow dung into a favorite sweet dish that he offered to Lord Ram's idol and then ate, so he could never crave it again. (Wikipedia)

Sadhana & Sannyasa

After a year and a half at Sajjangad, Samarth Ramdas himself blessed him and later directed him to go south to Karnataka to spread the message of Sanatan Vedic Dharma. (Wikipedia) For the next thirteen years he toured most of South India on foot, halting at temples and mathas to deliver discourses. (Wikipedia) Among the saints he met was Sivananda Swami of Shigehalli; he also visited the Vivekananda Rock Memorial for meditation. In 1942, at Shigehalli, he took Sannyasa and was given the title "Shreemat Paramhans Parivrajakacharya Bhagwan Shreedhar Swami". (Wikipedia)

Travels & Teachings

From then until 1967 he travelled extensively across India, spreading the core messages of the Vedas through speeches, writings, and spiritual initiatives. (Wikipedia) His mission, per ashram sources, was the revival of Sanatan Hindu Dharma, which he felt had fallen prey to evils like casteism, sectarianism, and rigid ritualism. (Sridharashrama)

Ashram at Varadahalli

Between 1958 and 1973 he undertook sadhana and settled at Varadapura, Sagara, establishing his ashram there (Wikipedia) (some ashram sources date the founding to 1954, others to 1961). He also renovated the nearby Durgamba Temple, said to have originally been established by sage Vyasa. Facing a severe water shortage at the site, tradition holds that he dug a small hole in the ground with his toe, and a spring surfaced — now flowing as the Shridhar Tirtha. (Sridharashrama) He also erected a Dharma Dhawaja (banner of dharma) at Varadapur, symbolizing his life's purpose of Hindu renewal. (Sridharashrama)

"Miracles" / Occult Attributes

He is popularly considered by many devotees to be an incarnation of Dattatreya, (Sridharashrama) and the ashram describes him as "The Great Sage of Our Times," renowned for his spiritual attainments and occult powers. (Sridharashrama) The spring-from-a-touch story above is the most commonly cited miraculous account.

Written Works

He was a gifted composer, fluent in Marathi, Sanskrit, Kannada, Hindi and English, and wrote prolifically — over twenty books in Marathi, Kannada and English — aiming to simplify Vedic teaching for the common person. (Wikipedia) The ashram also publishes a monthly magazine, Shridhara Sandesha.

Final Years, Samadhi & Death

After six years of continuous solitude at Varadapur, from 1968 to 1973, he undertook Samadhi and left his physical body on Chaitra Vadya Dwitiya in 1973 (Shridharamrut) — specifically 19 April 1973. (Wikipedia) News of his passing spread quickly, announced over All India Radio, and disciples converged on Varadpur; his body was placed on a specially made bed of flowers. (Wikipedia) A Samadhi shrine was built at the site

Present State of the Ashram

Today the shrine complex includes the Samadhi, Gynan Mandir, Dharma Sthamba, Goshala, and Shridhar Teertha. (Wikipedia) **Specific features include:**

- The Samadhi Mandir and the cave where he spent his final years (1968–1973) in solitude (Karnataka)
- A Sanskrit Pathshala teaching the Vedas, Upanishads, and spiritual literature (Karnataka)
- A Goshala (cow shelter) housing around 250 cows (Karnataka)
- A 30-foot Dharma Sthamba made of five sacred metals atop the hill (Karnataka)
- The ashram is run by a trust of the saint's disciples, who live on-site and do voluntary work without salary (Karnataka)

Annual observances include Shridhara Swamy Aradhana Mahotsava, Guru Poornima, Vijayadashami, Chaturmasa Samapthi Dina, and Sri Datta Shridhara Jayanti Mahotsava.

Books by Bhagavan Sri Sridhara Swamiji of Varadahalli (1908–1973).:

Overview

He was fluent in Marathi, Sanskrit, Kannada, Hindi and English, and despite his extensive travels found time for religious writing, aiming to simplify Vedic teachings for ordinary people. He is credited with over twenty books across Marathi, Kannada and English.

Known titles and collections

- **Sridharavachanamrita Dhara series** (Marathi/Kannada) — a multi-part discourse collection; parts identified include Dhara-7 and Dhara-8 (on Devitattva, the nature of the Divine Mother) and Dhara-10 (Ramagita, Part 2)
- **Sridharamrita** – 365 Pravachanagalu (Kannada) — a collection of 365 daily discourses
- **Sadguru Bodhamrita** (Marathi & Kannada) — a compiled collection of his personal letters of blessing to devotees
- **Stotraratnamalika** (Sanskrit/Marathi and Sanskrit/Kannada editions) — a garland of Sanskrit hymns with vernacular translations/meanings
- **Sri Shiva Shanta Stotra Tilakam** — with Marathi commentary
- **Sri Shreedhara Swami Maharaj ki Nitya Upasana** — a daily worship/liturgy manual
- **Moksha Sandesha** ("The Message of Salvation") — described as a guide for the inexperienced spiritual practitioner (Kannada)
- **Bhagavan Sri Sridharaswamigalavaru** — a Kannada biographical work on his life

Original compositions (stotras and hymns)

He personally composed a number of hymns, including Sri Datta Stavaraja, Sri Guru Sridhara Stotram, Sri Hanumat Stotram, and Patitapavana Sri Guru Stotram, among others, alongside a short verse autobiography and assorted Sanskrit/Kannada/Marathi stotras.

Other literature associated with him

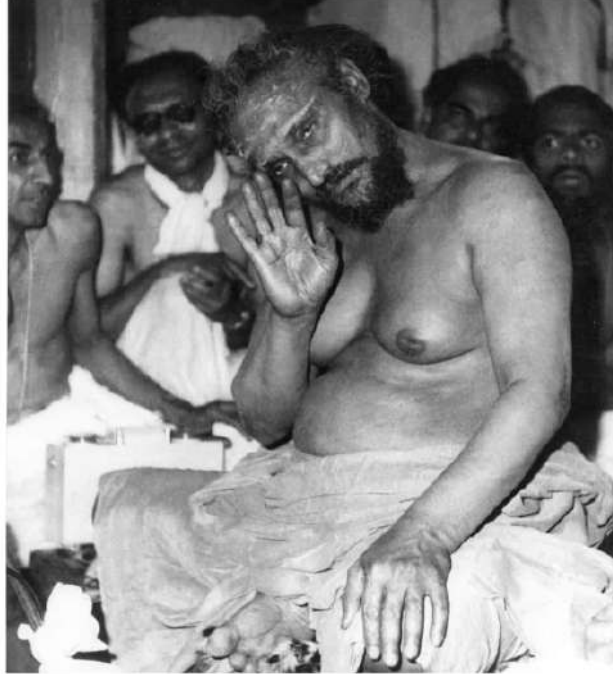
- Sadguru Sridhara Swami Charitam — an English translation (by G. A. Narasimha Murthy) of a Kannada biography of the Swamiji, detailing his life story
- His monthly magazine, Shridhara Sandesha, continues to be published by the ashram
- Recordings exist of his own voice giving discourses (Pravachanas) in Kannada, Marathi and Hindi

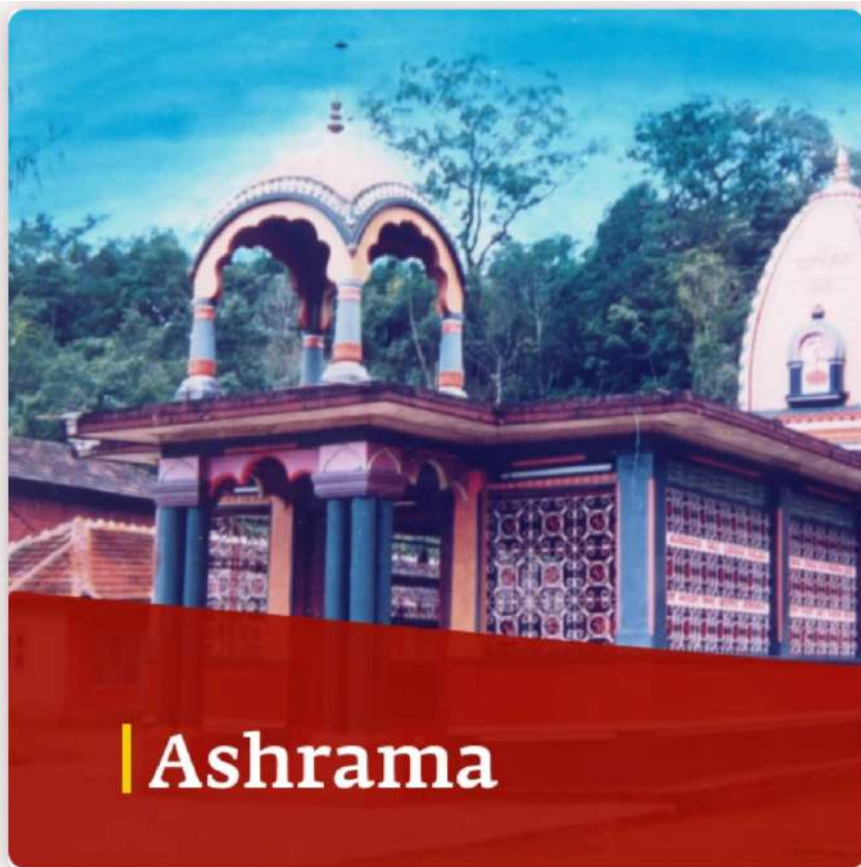
Where to access them

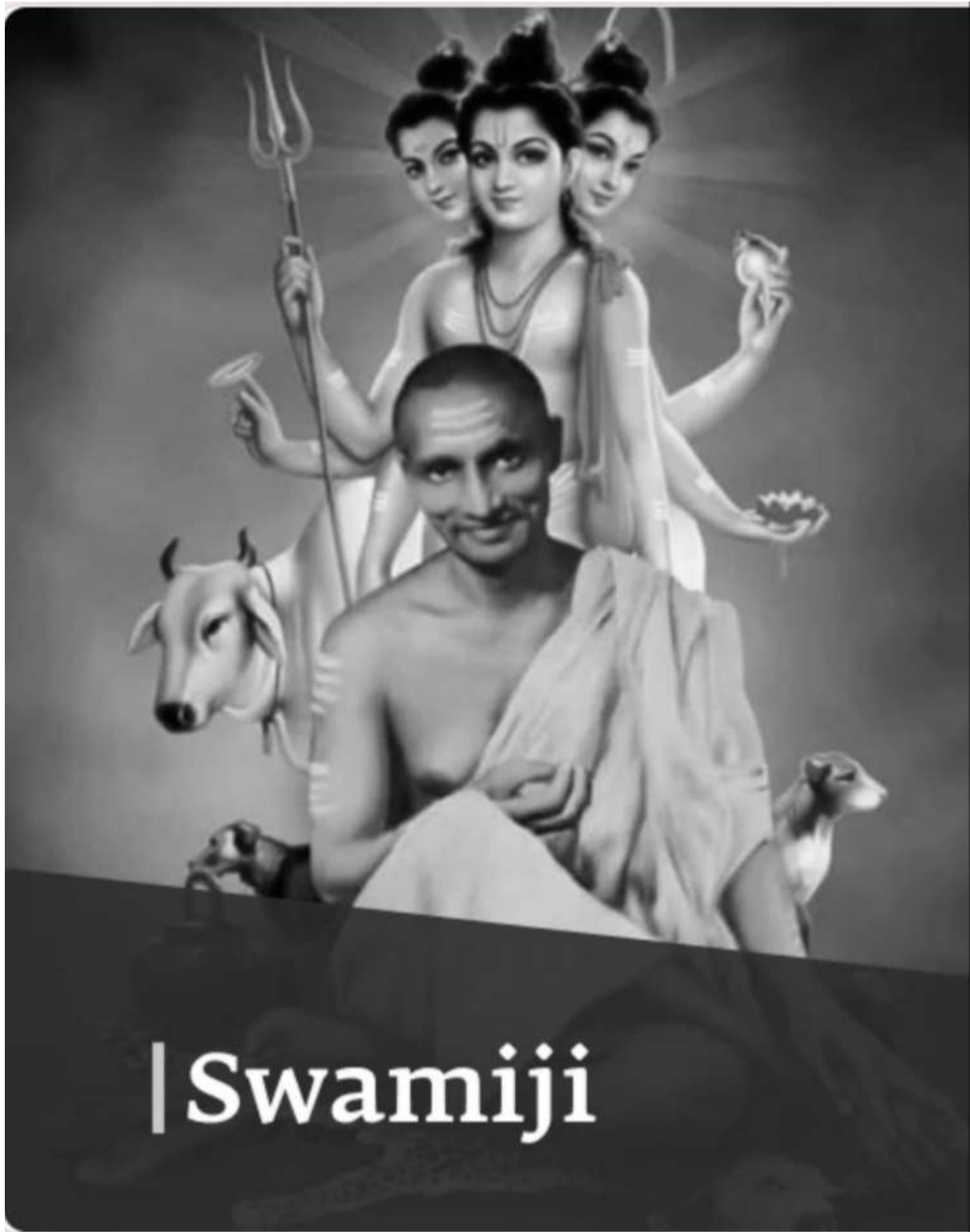
- The ashram's official site, sridharashrama.org, and the devotee-run archive shridharsahitya.wordpress.com host online literature/eBooks
- shridharamrut.com hosts his charitra, stotras, pravachans and other writings
- A mobile app, "Shridhara Sarvaswam" (Google Play), offers audio of his discourses, stotras, English poems, and disciple biographies

Ref: perplexityAI

Bhagavan Sri Sridhara Swamiji of Varadahalli







Bhagavan Sri Sridhara Swamiji of Varadahalli is remembered as a 20th-century saint, teacher, and spiritual guide who made Varadapura/Varadahalli near Sagara, Karnataka, into a major pilgrimage and meditation center. His life is especially associated with intense tapas, devotion to Dharma, and a simple but powerful message of spiritual discipline and Sanatan Vedic values .

Greatness of the Swamiji

Sridhara Swamiji is widely revered for his austerity, saintliness, and influence on devotees across Karnataka and Maharashtra. Sources describe him as a saint of strong spiritual force who inspired people through personal example, teachings, writings, and travel, and who was regarded by devotees as a great soul of the 20th century .

He is also remembered for reviving devotion, simplicity, and dharmic living. The ashram tradition around him continues to attract pilgrims for meditation, prayer, and study .

Location

Varadahalli, also called Varadapura, is a small village in Sagara taluk, Shivamogga district, Karnataka. It lies about 6 km from Sagara and is set in the Sahyadri hill region, which gives the ashram a quiet, forested atmosphere .

The ashram and samadhi complex are built on a hill and are reached by steps from the base. The site is now known as Sri Sridhara Swami Ashram / Sri Kshetra Varadapura.

Parents and birth

One source states that Sri Shreedhara Swami Maharaj was born to Narayan Rao and Kamalabai Deglurkar in a Brahmin family on 7 December 1908 in Lad Chincholi, Karnataka.

Another source gives a similar birth year and describes him as born in Karnataka and devoted from an early age to spiritual life.

Some popular local accounts also link his birth with Datta Jayanti and describe it as an auspicious birth. Those details appear in devotional sources rather than in a single authoritative biographical record, so they are best treated as traditional accounts.

Childhood and early life

Very detailed public biographical documentation of his childhood is limited in the sources found, but the available accounts consistently portray him as spiritually inclined from youth. He later chose a life of austerity, pilgrimage, and teaching rather than worldly pursuits. His connection with sacred places and his devotion to Lord Rama and the dharmic tradition became central to his identity.

Spiritual inclinations

Sridhara Swamiji is described as deeply drawn to sadhana, meditation, and the spread of Vedic Dharma. He emphasized spiritual upliftment and reportedly worked to move people away from caste pride, orthodoxy, and sectarian rigidity.

He is also described as a devotee of Lord Rama and a follower in the spiritual line associated with Samarth Ramdas. His life was marked by pilgrimage, contemplation, and public preaching.

Guru and sadhana

One widely repeated account says that he performed severe penance at Sajjangad, associated with Samarth Ramdas, and later received blessings there. A local account also says he was guided to go to Karnataka and spread the message of Sanatan Vedic Dharma.

His sadhana is linked to long periods of solitude and meditation, especially in the cave area at Varadahalli where he stayed in his final years. The ashram itself preserves this memory through the samadhi site and cave shrine.

Travels and preaching

He is described as having toured extensively across India until the late 1960s, delivering speeches and spiritual guidance wherever he went. These travels are said to have helped spread the core messages of the Vedas and dharma among ordinary people..

After years of travel, he returned to Varadapura in 1967 and established his ashram there.

Teachings

His teachings centered on Sanatan Vedic Dharma, devotion, simplicity, spiritual discipline, and moral living. He strongly supported spiritual upliftment and the renewal of Hindu life through study, practice, and inner purification.

The ashram remains linked to Veda study, Upanishadic learning, Sanskrit learning, and devotional practice, which reflects the educational side of his mission. The presence of a Sanskrit pathshala and Veda school shows that his teaching legacy continues institutionally.

Temple and ashram

Sri Sridhara Swami Ashram at Varadahalli is the principal memorial and living institution associated with him. It includes the samadhi shrine, cave, Dharma Stambha, Goshala, and the holy water source known as Sridhara Tirtha.

The ashram also includes temples such as Uma Maheshwara and Rama Durgamba, along with a dining hall, accommodation, bathing facilities, and a Veda school. The official website describes his establishment of the ashram and the Dharma Dhawaja, and also says he renovated the Durgamba Temple nearby.

Main disciples

The sources found do not clearly list a short, authoritative set of “main disciples” by name. What is clear is that the ashram is maintained by a trust and devotees who continue his work, with members living there and doing voluntary service.

So, for a public presentation, it is safer to say that his disciples and devotees formed the core community that preserved the ashram and samadhi tradition.

Miracles and holy acts

Devotional sources attribute several miracles to him, especially the creation of Sridhara Tirtha, a continuous water source said to have emerged where water had been scarce ❖. Another account says he created a stream by digging the ground with the thumb of his right leg, and that the water continues to flow.

Popular accounts also mention his spiritual powers and the reverence shown by other religious leaders and devotees, but these should be presented as traditional faith-based beliefs rather than verified historical facts.

Written works and discourses

The sources available here mention his speeches, writings, and spiritual initiatives, but do not provide a full bibliography. It is safe to say that his discourses focused on dharma, Vedic values, and practical spiritual life.

If you want to build a detailed presentation, it would be best to separately compile the titles of his books, bhajans, talks, or published compilations from the ashram or trust records.

Final days and samadhi.

He spent his last years in solitude at Varadahalli, especially in the cave area near the ashram. One source says he attained samadhi on 19 April 1973, while another devotional account also mentions that date and describes it as his ultimate samadhi.

After his passing, devotees built the samadhi temple, which remains the central shrine of the ashram.

Present state and routine

The ashram is active today as a pilgrimage and spiritual center, with daily worship, pilgrim facilities, a dining hall, lodging, and religious study ❖. One account says morning mahamangalarathi is conducted around 8:00 a.m. and again at noon, and food and accommodation are available for devotees.

The trust-run ashram is maintained by members who live simply and serve voluntarily, which reflects the spirit of the saint's teachings.

Useful note

For a video script or presentation, the most reliable structure would be: birth and early life, guru and sadhana, travels and preaching, Varadahalli ashram, miracles and teachings, samadhi, and present-day significance.

Videos

Sridhara Ashrama, Varadahalli (8 min):

<https://youtu.be/g0ScLrFDIJ8?si=JXcJ9KJohBbheUKX>

Sridhara Ashrama, Varadahalli (5 min):

<https://youtu.be/rVArFZHQEU8?si=XcNNmFF0ugr9SB5M>

Sridhara Ashrama, Varadahalli (4 min):

<https://youtu.be/YBnfrktLBdk?si=oCupazqSjM8eQSNn>

Varadapura Sridhara Ashrama (5 min):

https://youtu.be/pff0SwMFMvM?si=CITNi_o3HorWPYLM

Sridhara Ashrama....spiritual trip (5 min):

<https://youtu.be/vGZSsAloFgs?si=ROVqDvHiHDepXZE6>

Sridhara Ashrama, Varadahalli...FaceBook(0.43 min):

<https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1EFJu9U3yS/>

Varadahalli Sridhara Ashrama tour (1.29 min):

https://youtu.be/e_wPueT1leM?si=R4lh1xycNmfeJI7B

Sridhara Ashrama, Varadahalli and Sridhara Teertha for skin diseases(14 min):

<https://youtu.be/-Ooj7CX99hc?si=X8tmw3KwJNnmVI04>

Note: At the end of this ebook, two pages are included (see below), giving (i) Author info, and (ii) a master link and QR code to download all my Technical (viz. Thermodynamics, Heat Transfer, and Cryogenic Engineering) ebooks plus Spiritual ebooks, stored in archive.org.

About the Author

Dr. M. Thirumaleshwar is a Mechanical Engineer with specialization in Cryogenics. He obtained his B. E. In Mechanical Engineering from Karnataka Regional Engg College, (Now NITK), Surathkal, India and M.Sc. in Cryogenics from the University of Southampton, U.K., and Ph.D. from the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore.

He has worked in prestigious organizations such as BARC, Bombay and Centre for Advanced Technology (CAT), Indore, as Head of Cryogenics Dept and contributed to the design of cryogenic systems, including the Thermovac chamber for ISRO, Bangalore.

He was also a visiting fellow at Superconducting Super Collider Project, at Texas, USA.

He has also served as Professor, Head of Department, and Principal in reputed engineering institutions.

Dr. Thirumaleshwar has authored a large number of FREE ebooks on Engineering subjects such as Thermodynamics, Heat Transfer, and Cryogenic Engineering, which are useful for students and teachers.

Driven by a deep interest in India's spiritual heritage, he has also authored many FREE ebooks on Temples, Saints, Gurus, and Vedic topics, with the aim of preserving and spreading this knowledge to future generations.

All his ebooks are available for free download at [Archive.org](https://archive.org).

Where to Download all my free ebooks (Engineering + Spiritual):

All my ebooks on Engineering (Thermodynamics, Heat Transfer, Cryogenic Engineering), Temples, Saints, Gurus, and Vedic topics are available for free download from Archive.org.

Master Link (All Books):

<https://archive.org/search?query=creator%3A%22Dr.%20M.%20Thirumaleshwar%22>

Scan the QR code to access all free ebooks:



QR code to access all my free ebooks

All books are free to download and share for educational and spiritual purposes.

**Dr. M. Thirumaleshwar
July 2, 2026**
